

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present Preliminary Amendment the claims in the application are claims 1-3 and 3-6 of which claim 1 is independent. Also, claim 3 is multiple dependent, as it depends from either of claims 1 and 2.

The specification has been amended to correct minor inconsistencies and typos in three paragraphs, while the specification has been amended to delete and correct certain reference numbers therein. Specifically, Fig. 1 is amended to remove reference number “20B”, and each of Figs. 2 and 3 is amended to change “62” and “63” to --63-- and --64--, respectively.

Applicant respectfully submits that the above amendments are fully supported by the original disclosure, and do not introduce and impermissible “new matter”.

The above listing of claims reflects amendments submitted in International Application PCT/JP04/14582 under Article 19 (1), on March 10, 2005. Applicant is filing concurrently herewith an English language translation of International Application PCT/JP04/14582 as originally filed, a copy of the an amendment under PCT Article 19(1), dated March 10, 2005, and a copy of an English translation of the amendment. In the amendment under Article 19(1), original claims 1 and 2 were amended as reflected in the above listing of claims.

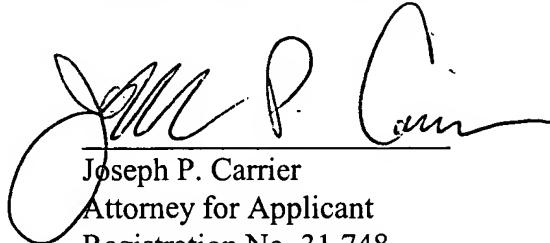
Applicant respectfully submits that all of the above amendments are fully supported by the original application, including the original claims. Applicant also respectfully submits that the above amendments do not introduce any new matter into the application.

Also being filed concurrently herewith is a copy of the International Preliminary Report on Patentability in International Application PCT/JP2004/14582, together with an English language translation of same. It will be noted that the International Searching Authority for International

Application PCT/JP2004/14582 has found all of present claims 1 -3 to be patentable.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



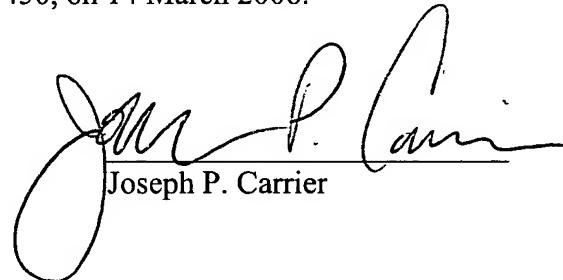
Joseph P. Carrier
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 31,748
(248) 344-4422

Customer No. 21828
Carrier, Blackman & Associates, P.C.
24101 Novi Road, Suite 100
Novi, Michigan 48375
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JPC/ms

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as express Mail Certificate No. EQ398011051US in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 14 March 2006.



Joseph P. Carrier

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please amend the Figs. 1-3 as shown on the attached sheets (clean, formal replacement sheets and marked up sheets showing the changes made). Specifically, Fig. 1 is amended to remove reference number “20B”, and each of Figs. 2 and 3 is amended to change “62” and “63” to --63-- and --64--, respectively.

FIG.1

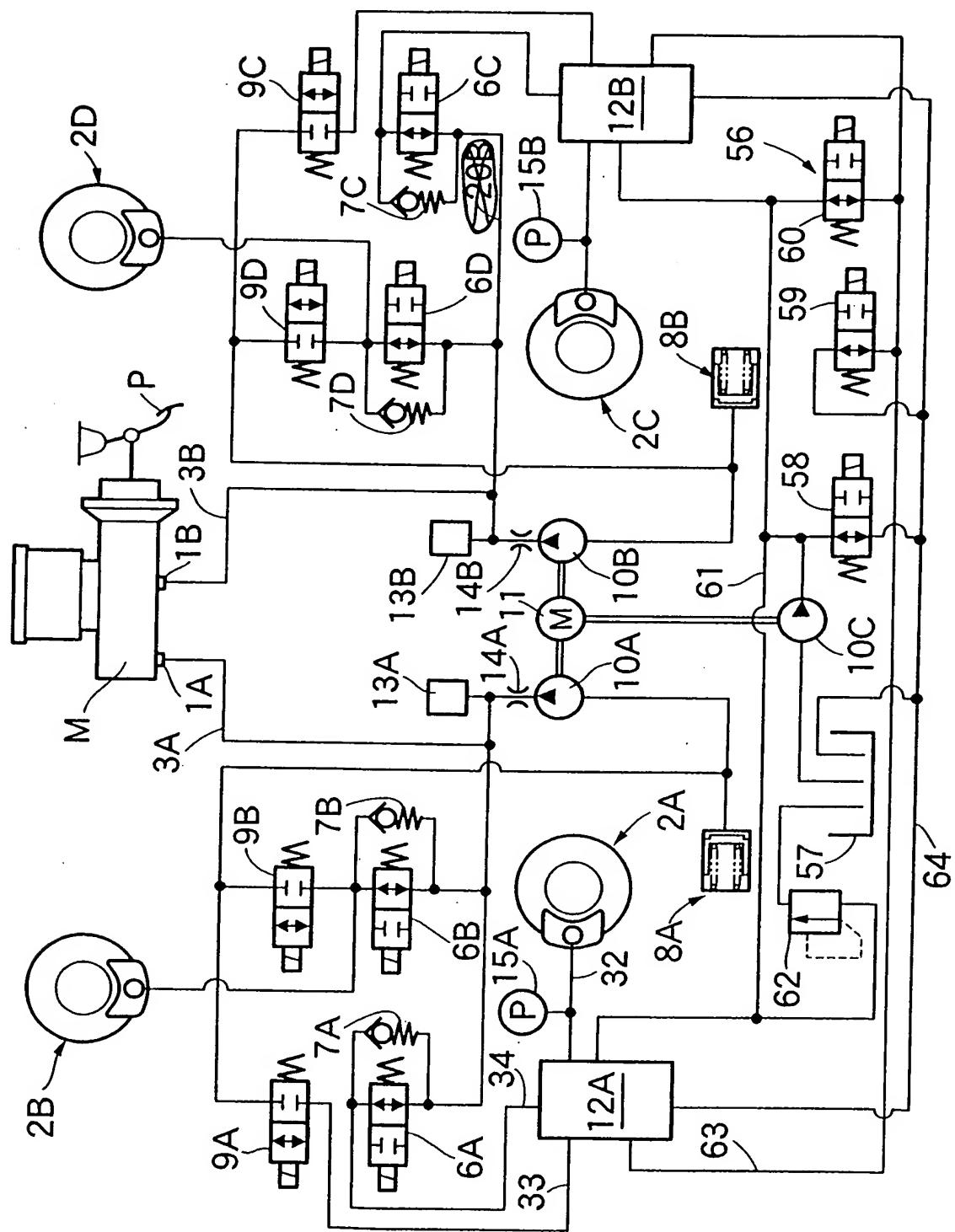


FIG.2

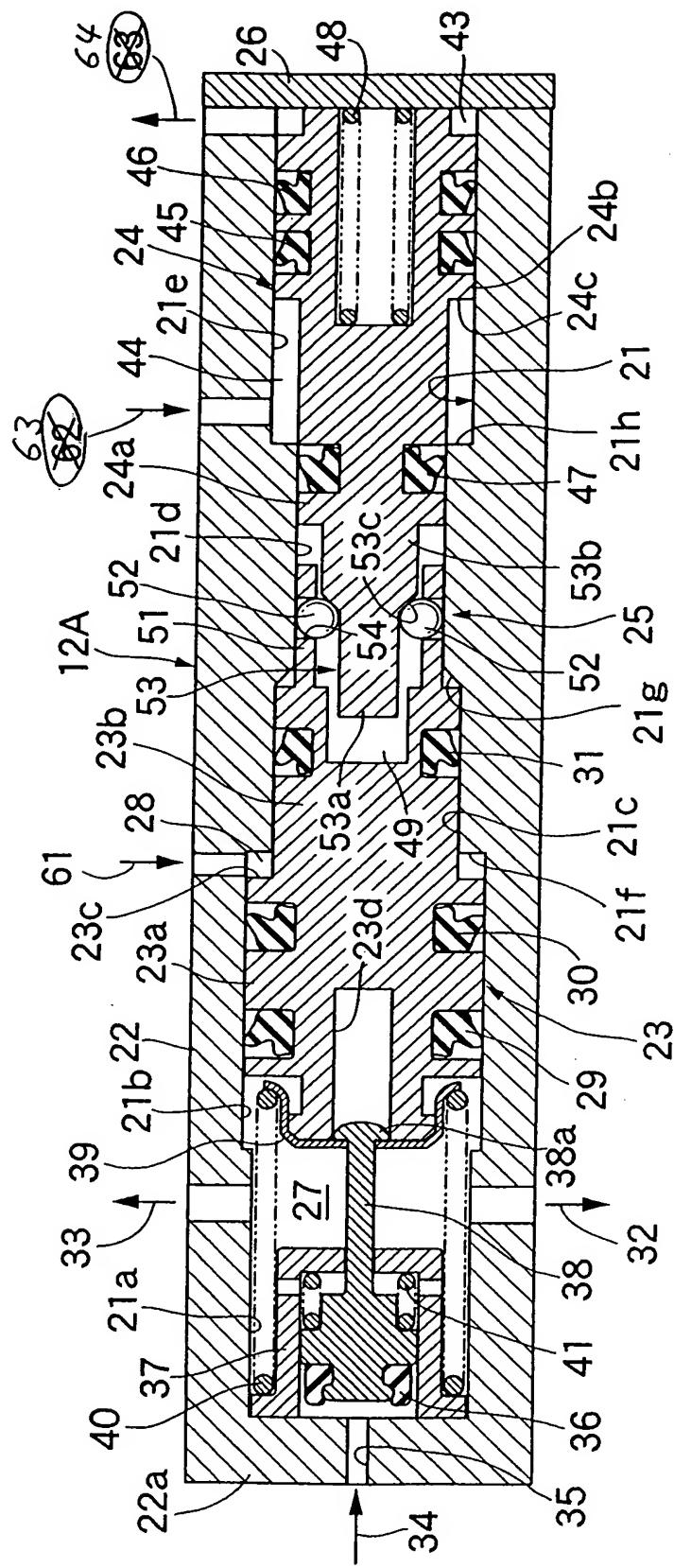


FIG.3

